

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-4, 6-31, 33, and 35 are pending, in which claim 36 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer (claims 5, 32, and 34 having been previously canceled)

The final Office Action mailed June 18, 2004 rejected claim 36 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on *Jaiswal et al.* (US 6,002,754) in view of *Alesio et al.* (US 5,481,600).

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 1-4, 6-31, 33, and 35 are allowed.

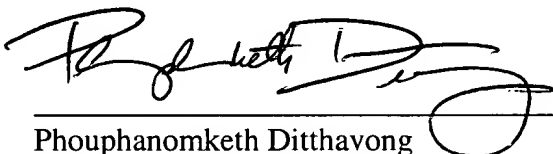
In the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicants have canceled claim 36, thereby rendering the obviousness rejection moot.

Therefore, the present application, as amended, overcomes the rejection of record and is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (703) 425-8508 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

DITTHAVONG & CARLSON, P.C.

8/17/04
Date


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